

Questions and Answers

Army Community Service

Q: I have a problem and don't know where to go for help.

A: Call Army Community Service (ACS) at 655-4227. If we don't know the answer, we will find out. A staff of professionals stands ready to assist you with problem resolution. Whether it is a deployment related issue; a problem obtaining needed services; simple questions; or financial assistance, ACS is there to help.

Q: It is after hours and I need to talk to someone. What do I do? What are my resources? Help is available 24/7.

A: Military One Source is available 24/7 at 1-800-342-9647. You have prepared for all sorts of situations, but that doesn't mean you have to carry the weight of the world on your shoulders alone. Whenever you need help, you can call. No question is too small. No issue is too big. You can also call the ACS Crisis Line at 624-SAFE. They will ensure you are connected to a person who can assist you.

Q: If a Family member is on the mainland, who can they call to get information?

A: Family members may call Army Community Service toll free at 1-877-406-2148. Family members who have not informed their unit Family Readiness Group (FRG) of their current telephone number and mailing address should contact their FRG to update the FRG roster. This will enable the FRG or the Rear Detachment Commander to provide accurate information.

Q: I am experiencing conflict, where can I go for assistance?

A: There are free, confidential helping resources available for Soldiers, Family members, Family Readiness Group Leaders, and professionals. Contact Army Community Service at (808) 655-4227; Military and Family Life Consultants at (808) 222-7088; Soldier and Family Assistance Center at (808) 433-8130; and Chaplains at (808) 655-8763.

Q: I need time out for myself. What support is available for me to help care for my children?

A: Spouses of deployed Soldiers can use their Blue Star Card to obtain 5 hours of child care to get relief. If you have a special needs child you may contact the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) manager at 655-4227 to learn about respite care eligibility under the EFMP. The ACS Family Advocacy program manager can offer free respite care for at risk Families. Call 655-4227 for assistance.

Q: What are Military and Family Life Consultants and how can I contact them?

A: Military and Family Life Consultants are licensed mental health professionals, supported by ACS and contracted by the military, to provide short-term, confidential support and assistance to service members, their Families, and civilian personnel. They are available at (808) 222-7088.

Q: My child's behavior has changed. What do I do?

A: Call Army Community Service. Specialized help is available to help you work with your child. Don't ignore the problem or assume it will go away. In addition to working with your school counselor, contact ACS. ACS can work with you and the school counselor. ACS professionals are available to work with counselors, teachers, classes and individuals to help ease the situation and broaden understanding of the issues children are experiencing. ACS also has specialized training programs for children to learn while having fun.

Q: What resource groups will be available for children?

A: Upon notification of an extension, the ACS Prevention Staff are prepared to initiate support groups for ages 0-5, 6-12, and 13-18. These groups will continue throughout the extension. Special needs children may attend a monthly, activity-based program. For more information call the Exceptional Family Member program manager at 655-4777.

Q: I need financial assistance.

A: Experienced Army Community Service Financial Planners are available to assist you with you with free, confidential financial services. Army Emergency Relief (AER) is also available for emergency financial assistance. Army Emergency Relief and Financial Planners can be reached at 655-4227.

Q: I find myself isolated at home. I am lonely. How do I get help?

A: Call ACS at 655-4227. Many fun opportunities exist to help you stay connected with people in your same situation. Free child care is available to individuals who volunteer at ACS. Don't weather the deployment alone.

Q: I am a foreign-born spouse and my permanent resident card is expiring. What should I do?

A: Come to ACS for assistance. Call 655-4227 to talk to someone that can help walk you through the process, assist with the forms, and help you work with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. ACS can also help with citizenship issues.

Q: I need services but I don't speak English very well, how do I get help?

A: Stop by ACS. ACS has volunteer translators in various languages that can help.

Q: I am a guardian caring for a dependent whose parent is deployed and I didn't intend to do this past July. Now what? Who can help me?

A: ACS can help to facilitate emergency respite care until the Soldier can work out an alternate Family care plan.

Q: I've already packed up and shipped my household goods, will ACS extend use of lending closet items?

A: Yes. Army Community Service will exercise flexibility in its Lending Closet property return policy to accommodate Families who have signed out household goods items and are now impacted by the extension.

Q: I'm afraid my friend is going to harm her/himself, what can I do?

A: Do not leave your friend alone. Stay with him/her. Get professional help right away. Call the 24-hour Chaplain at 655-8763 or the Suicide & Crisis Hotline 832-3100. Both of these resources are available to provide assistance and suicide prevention intervention.

Q: I am really stressed out. What do I do?

A: You are not alone. Call 655-4227 or stop by ACS. We have a solution for you. Stress relief comes in many forms, and several alternatives exist to help, depending on your circumstances.

Q: How do I explain the extension to my kids?

A: Army Community Service has resources, materials and education available to assist you. We have support groups for all ages and specialized training for Family Readiness Groups, the Rear Detachment Commanders, or your agency. We train service members and civilians. We are also available for consultation. Call ACS at 655-4227.

Q: I am having a personal relationship conflict. How can I get help?

A: Call ACS at 655-4227. We have an informal group called the "coffee break" that meets during lunch. Help is available for you. Call for times and locations.

Q: Does ACS work with the schools?

A: Army Community Service and Soldier and Family Assistance Center have been working with school staff to educate them on the issues surrounding deployment. This relationship is expanding to include increased contact and increased offers of subject matter assistance to school staff.

School Liaison Office

Q: What is the role of the School Liaison Office (SLO)?

A: The School Liaison Office is the single point of contact for information between the Command and the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE). During the deployment and the potential extension of Soldiers, the DOE should contact the SLO for extension information and updates.

Q: What is the protocol when there is a school issue that needs to be resolved?

A: Families are encouraged to follow the proper DOE chain of command when they have a school concern - teacher, counselor, vice principal and principal. Families are encouraged to contact the School Liaison Office at anytime during the process if they have questions or concerns.

Q: What programs and services does the SLO provide to assist Families?

A: The SLO provides Families with the information they need to overcome obstacles in education that stem from the military lifestyle such as relocating, deployments and potential extensions. The SLO provides information about resources that are available for parents, students, the DOE, and on-post/off-post partners. For example, the School Liaison Office is part of a Deployment Response Team composed of a school liaison officer, Family Advocacy educator, and a Tripler Army Medical Center psychologist, that go to the schools to provide information and assistance during any stage of deployment. This SLO Deployment Response team is available to parents, students and school staff, as requested.

Q: We were expecting to begin the new school year in September at our next duty station, should I have my child/teen begin the school year here in July?

A: It is recommended that Families continue the status quo until more information is available. Your child/teen should start at his/her respective school in July. This is a precautionary move in case your Family is still in Hawaii when the mainland schools begin in September.

Q: Will the schools be informing my child's/teen's teachers about the extension or will I be responsible for making the notification?

A: The SLO will provide the DOE with updates about the extension as it becomes available and principals will disseminate info among their staff. Schools have been directed to contact the SLO for accurate information to manage rumor control. You are welcome to approach your child's/teen's teachers and support staff if you have concerns about his/her performance in school, as a result of the stress caused by the deployment and/or extension.

Q: How is the SLO assisting the schools?

A: The SLO has provided schools with the opportunity to receive a deployment response briefing to address the effects of deployment on children, to inform them of the stages of deployment, and to provide them with a list of resources that are available to assist their students. Additional briefings will be made available to the schools upon request, especially to address the extension.

The SLO will continue to be the single point of contact for information between the Command and the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE). The SLO will also provide information and updates about the extension to the DOE and will provide links to programs/services that are deployment and extension related.

Directorate of Human Resources

1. Retirement Services Office:

Q: My Service Member was supposed to ETS/PCS/retire, how does this extension effect those dates?

>>ETS: Expiration of Term of Service -- scheduled date of separation from active duty

>>PCS: Permanent Change of Station -- reassignment to a different duty station

A: Soldiers that were supposed to ETS/retire will have their official dates adjusted to meet the extension. Soldiers new dates will depend on when the unit re-deploys. After the unit re-deploys the Soldier may ETS/Retire 90 days later. PCSing Soldiers may also have their days adjusted, depending upon their situation. Each PCSing Soldier must work out new dates with their branch manager, or their assignment may be deleted, deferred or adjusted by HRC.

Q: What if I reach my Retention Control Point for a mandatory retirement?

A: Soldiers who reach their Retention Control Point (RCP)/Mandatory Retirement Date (MRD) must be considered for release from the theater and be allowed to retire in most cases.

Note: RCP/MRD is at 30 years active service or age 62, regular RCP's/MRD's are suspended for deployed Soldiers.

Q. My separation/retirement date cannot be earlier than 90 + days after redeployment. What is required during these 90 days?

A. The 90-day stabilization period following redeployment permits Soldiers to process for separation or retirement from the Army and ensures completion of all required actions to include: a separation physical; Survivor Benefit Plan counseling (retirements only); Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP) services and pre-separation counseling (DD Form 2648); arranging travel and Household Goods (HHG) shipment; installation clearance; and out-processing at the Transition Center (TC).

Q. How does taking of leave prior to voluntary separation or retirement apply?

A. Use of leave may be included in the 90-day stabilization period. If a Soldier incurs a hardship in completion of all processing within the 90-day period, to include the use of leave, a change in the separation/retirement date may be requested through the chain of command to the local Retirement Services Office for processing to USA Human Resources Command. Separating Soldiers have the option of cashing in up to a maximum of 60 days of accrued leave (once in a career); taking all accrued leave; or using a combination of both options.

Q. Does this mean I will not be allowed to pre-process and depart the installation before the 90-day stabilization period?

A. No. The separation or retirement date cannot be effective before 90 days after redeployment, however, if all required processing are completed a Soldier may pre-process with the Transition Center and depart on transition leave (TL) and/or permissive TDY (PTDY) during the stabilization period. If TL and/or PTDY will not be taken in conjunction with separation or retirement, the Soldier's report date to the Transition Center will be established as two duty days before the date of separation or retirement. When TL and/or PTDY will be taken, the Soldier's report date to the Transition Center will be two duty days before the begin date of TL and/or PTDY. If all mandatory out-processing is not completed before departure, the TL and/or PTDY begin date must be adjusted to a later date; and the number of leave days will be less unless the Soldier has requested and is approved for separation or retirement at a later date. **Note:** The 90-day stabilization period allows completion of all required actions for a smooth transition from military service, so the amount of TL and/or PTDY contemplated must be carefully considered when requesting a date of separation or retirement.

Q. What is "special leave accrual" and how does it apply to deployed Soldiers?

A. Special leave accrual is provided by Chapter 3, AR 600-8-10, and authorizes Soldiers to carry forward up to 90 days of leave at the end of a Fiscal Year (FY) (60 days normal leave carry over plus 30 days special leave accrual). To calculate how many days of special leave accrual can actually be carried over, the date of deployment and the leave balance at the end of the FY (30 September) must be known.

2. Transition Center:

Q. My ETS was extended due to STOP LOSS, when will I get out?

A. Your new ETS date will be established as 90 days after the unit redeployment date to Hawaii. This date will be established by HQ, USARPAC, and it will be inputted into the Personnel and Finance (DFAS) data bases and shown on the Enlisted Record Brief/Officer Record Brief and LES.

Q. I'd like to get out of the Army as soon as I return to Hawaii. How will I get a 90-day waiver of my new ETS upon redeployment?

A. Submit a DA 4187 (Request waiver of 90-day stabilization policy) through your company commander to your Battalion Commander requesting an earlier separation date. The battalion commander is the approving authority. The S1 provides the approved DA Form 4187 to the Transition Center for publication of ETS orders.

Q. I have 80 days of accrued, will I be allowed to take all of it as Transition (Terminal) Leave, upon ETS?

A. Yes, however, you must complete all installation out-processing requirements. If this leave will cause you to go past your established STOP LOSS release date (new ETS date), you must see your Retention NCO to request an extension of enlistment to cover the additional period.

Q. Will I be able to take block leave and still ETS on time?

A. Yes, however, you must complete all mandatory out processing requirements, i.e. separation physical exam, ACAP, CIF, etc., prior to the established release date. If not, an extension of enlistment document will be required.

3. Travel / Rest & Relaxation (R&R):

Q: Can my Service Member get another R&R leave?

A: No, R&R leave is a congressionally mandated program, which cannot be modified. Each Soldier is only allowed one R&R. If the service members have not had their R&R, they may still take it. Service members may continue to use the R&R Pass program in Qatar.

Q: My service member has not come home on R&R leave. Will s/he still be able to take it?

A: Soldiers are eligible to take one R&R 15-day leave if deployed for 365 days (AC), or if deployed for 270 days in AOR (RC). Also Soldiers are eligible to take one 4-day Qatar pass for every 6 month period. Each BCT/BDE and separate commands will not allow more than 10 percent of their unit to be on R&R Leave, R&R Pass, or emergency leave at any given time.

Q. My Family wants to return home to CONUS while I am still deployed. Can I request Early Return of Dependents (ERD)?

A. Yes. Submit a request for ERD through channels, with justification for hardship, or for unusual or emergency situations (i.e. financial difficulties, marital difficulties, unforeseen Family problems, serious illness of close relatives, hardship situations, etc.), and the Department of Human Resources (DHR) will publish ERD orders to authorize the movement of Family members, household goods and privately owned vehicles, as requested.

Q. My Family members left the island on ERD before my deployment. Can I have them returned to the island upon my return?

A. Yes. You may bring your Family members to Hawaii at your own personal expense (not at Government expense) and reapply for command sponsorship. You must have at least 12 months of obligated service remaining on island upon approval of command sponsorship to qualify for subsequent Family travel and shipment of household goods, etc., upon PCS or ETS.

Q: We bought nonrefundable tickets for travel to the Mainland just after my spouse was to redeploy. The extension means he will now redeploy after that time. Can I file a claim to get that money back?

A: This is not normally a type of payable Army claim. This extension is a different situation than when the 172nd SBCT (out of Alaska) was extended in the midst of its redeployment; there was a special exception granted due to those circumstances.

4. Reassignments:

Q: How will PCSing Soldiers get a waiver to the 90-day stabilization policy upon redeployment?

A: Soldiers who want a waiver to the 90-day stabilization policy, in order to depart early on PCS, can submit a DA Form 4187 requesting the 90-day waiver through their unit. The battalion commander is the approval authority. The battalion S1 will then forward the approved request to the Reassignments Section, DHR for publication of PCS orders.

5. Regular Passports:

Q: Can Soldiers renew their passports in theater?

A: Yes. Soldiers can renew their passports in theater by submitting the DS 82 renewal form, which is found on Web site www.state.travel.gov and mailing the form to the official passport agency. The fee is \$67 for renewal.

6. CAC Card Renewal:

Q: Is a Soldier's signature required for issuance of dependent ID cards during mobilization or wartime?

A: No. During mobilization or wartime, the mobilized or deployed sponsor's signature is not required on the DD Form 1172. The verifying official will sign and date the form. The verifying official will also provide the following statement: "Eligibility was verified by DEERS. Sponsor not available-Deployed in support of Operation Enduring/Iraq Freedom."

Q: If powers of attorney have expired, can dependents still receive ID Cards?

A: No. The Sponsor has to submit another power of attorney and mail it to the Family member.

Child and Youth Services (CYS)

Q: Do my children have to be registered to use child care or attend Short Term Alternative Child Care functions?

A: Yes, every child has to register to utilize any Child and Youth programs.

Q: What are the registration requirements?

- A current health assessment (due within 30 days of registration).
- Official shot records or medical records with negative TB tine test

- Birth certificate or any legal document with child's birth
- Social Security number
- 3 local emergency designees
- Current Leave and Earnings Statement / pay stub as proof of total Family income for fee assessment
- Dual/single military are required to provide a Family Care Plan
- Non refundable \$18 registration fee for the 1st & 2nd child. \$40 for 3 or more children
- Orientation is required to start children at a Child Development Center

Q: What does child care cost?

A: Child care fees are based on total Family income. Hourly care is \$3.75 an hour.

Q: What is a STACC?

A: STACC stands for Short Term Alternative Child Care. It is a form of child care for hire.

Q: What type of functions are STACCs used for?

A: The Chaplain utilizes STACC for Sunday Chapel care, Marriage 101, Protestant Women Of the Chapel (PWOC), Military Council of Catholic Women (MCCW), Family Nights and Special Retreats.

- Army Community Service, the HUI, military units, and Family Readiness Groups also contract with STACC.

Q: How does one set up a STACC and what is the cost of a STACC?

A: The point of contact sets the date for their function and contacts the STACC lead. A contract is signed indicating the number of children needing child care. The STACC lead assigns the number of caregivers needed for a proper child-to-care provider ratio. A minimum of two child care providers is required. The fees charged are \$16 per hour per childcare provider if the function is from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; \$18 per hour per child care provider if the function is between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. or on the weekends. Snacks and/or lunches are available, depending on the length of the function, for a minimal fee.

Q: Where are these STACC sites held?

A: STACC sites can only be held in approved locations. STACCs are usually held at the Chapel, our CDC's, the Kukui Room at the Nehelani, or the Pikaki Room at the Hale Ikena.

Q: How long before an event can one contract for a STACC?

A: One can contract as far ahead as possible in order to make sure that the date is available, and so that the STACC lead can schedule enough care providers to meet CYS ratio guidelines. A minimum of two weeks and 10 children is required to hold a STACC.

Q: What is the cancellation policy?

A: Cancellations must be made a minimum of one week in advance; otherwise the contracting organization will still be responsible for the full fee of this contract.

Q: When is payment due?

A: Payment is due one week prior to the event/function. This amount is non refundable, regardless of the number of children who actually participate at the STACC.

Personnel Services Branch

Q: What are the operating hours for the ID card section?

A: The operating hours are from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. **HOWEVER**, the center may stop taking new customers earlier, depending on the volume of customers, to ensure that all who have signed-in are serviced by 4 p.m.

Q: Does my sponsor have to be with me to get an ID card?

A: Yes, with the following exceptions:

- If the sponsor signs DD Form 1172 (Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card/DEERS Enrollment) in front of a verifying official, the Family member may bring this form unaccompanied by the sponsor.
- If the sponsor signs DD Form 1172 (Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card/DEERS Enrollment) and has it notarized, the Family member may bring this form unaccompanied by the sponsor.
- The Family member may sign the DD Form 1172 (Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card/DEERS Enrollment) using a CURRENT (original) power of attorney.
- If none of the above, a 90-day temporary card may be issued

Q: What documentation is needed to add, remove or make changes to DEERS?

A: The sponsor always needs supporting documentation to make any changes, (i.e. birth, death, marriage certificate, Social Security cards, divorce, adoption, and custody decrees)

Q: Once the DD Form 1172 (Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card/DEERS Enrollment) is signed, how long is it good for?

A: Up to 90 days.

Q: Can an ID card be issued by mail?

A: Yes. A person who needs an ID card and is unable to travel (incapacitated) to the nearest ID card facility, or lives 50 or more miles from an ID card center, may request one by mail or phone. Upon request, instructions and a DD Form 1172 (Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card/DEERS Enrollment) will be mailed by the ID card center. The sponsor will then return the signed and notarized DD Form 1172 (Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card/DEERS Enrollment), along with a notarized photograph of the card recipient.

Contact information for the Soldier Support Center:

Address: Chief, Personnel Services Branch

ATTN: IMPA-PSB Bldg. 750

Schofield Barracks, Hawaii 96857

Phone: (808) 655-4104

Q: What is the earliest an ID card can be renewed before expiring?

A: 90 days, with following exceptions:

- card is damaged
- promotion of sponsor
- significant change in appearance

Q: If the sponsor is deployed, how can a Family member receive an ID card?

A: The dependent should bring documentation stating the deployment, and legal documentation if someone needs to be added to sponsor's record in DEERS.

Q: Are the hours of lunchtime (11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.) a good time to get an ID card?

A: No. While the ID card section does not close for lunch, the office is minimally staffed. This can create delays.

Q: What is the minimum age a dependent can receive an ID card?

A: Age 10, with following exceptions:

- dependent dual active service members
- sponsor is a single parent
- dependent is not residing in sponsor's household

Q: How long may a dependent keep an ID card?

A: Up to age 21. At age 2, 1 if the dependent is enrolled FULL TIME in an accredited institution of higher learning, that dependent may have an ID card until the date of graduation or their 23rd birthday, whichever occurs first. **EXCEPTION:** The dependent is incapacitated either before the age of 21, or before the age of 23, if a full-time student. Certain forms need to be completed and forwarded to DFAS and are available at this office. **Phone:** (808) 655-4104

Q: What is needed to establish a dependent as a full-time student in DEERS?

A: A letter from the school registrar's office stating the dependent's full-time status and anticipated graduation date. The sponsor must also be providing more than 50 percent support for the dependent.

Q: Can a retiring sponsor on terminal leave be issued a retirement ID card before the retirement date?

A: Yes, up to 90 days prior. Although the system allows for this, it is not recommended due to the possibility of a gap in TRICARE coverage when entering a date before the actual retirement date.

Q: Can a parent, step-parent, or parent-in-law be added as a dependent to DEERS?

A: Yes. There are forms available at the ID card center that must be filled out and sent to DFAS for approval. Once approved the service member should bring the forms and the newly established dependent to the ID card center to be entered into DEERS and to receive an ID card.

Q: How is a spouse added to DEERS?

A: The sponsor will bring in the marriage certificate (original or certified copy), Social Security card and picture ID (i.e. Driver License, state ID, etc.). In the event of deployment, the spouse will have to show a copy of the deployment order and a general/special power of attorney.

Q: How are children added to DEERS?

A: It is dependent on the following:

- A female sponsor needs only bring the child's birth certificate and Social Security card.
- An unmarried male sponsor must have the child's birth certificate, Social Security card, and judicial determination (i.e. court-ordered child support or divorce decree naming children as his own). If no judicial determination has been made forms are available at an ID card center that must be sent to DFAS for approval.
- If a male sponsor is married and his wife is already on DEERS, he need only bring the child's birth certificate and Social Security card.

Q: Can step-children be added to DEERS?

A: Yes, as long as they reside with that service member and are not already the dependents of another service member. If the sponsor's spouse has physical custody, the custody document (original or certified copy) must also be presented.

Q: Can a ward of a service member be added to DEERS?

A: Yes. The service member must bring the court document(s) (original or certified copy), the dependent's birth certificate, the Social Security card, and a picture ID, if applicable. The ward must reside with the sponsor and be dependent on the sponsor for over half of their support.

Q: Can an Unremarried Former Spouse (URFS) of a sponsor keep their ID card and benefits?

A: Yes, when the following conditions are met:

- The sponsor performed at least 20 years of service
 - The spouse was married to the sponsor at least 20 years
 - The 20 years of marriage were during the 20 years of the sponsor's service
- All the above being met, the URFS is entitled to full benefits so long as they do not remarry.

-OR-

- The sponsor performed at least 20 years of service
- The spouse was married to the sponsor at least 20 years
- The 20 years of marriage were during at least 15 years of the sponsor's service

All the above being met, the URFS is only entitled to medical coverage for one year.

Q: What is required for a Disabled American Veteran (DAV) to receive an ID card?

A: To receive a DAV ID card, the person must bring:

- The letter from the Office of Veteran Affairs (VA) stating that they are 100 percent disabled and have entitlements to the Commissary and Post Exchange.
 - The Service Member's DD214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)
- Picture ID and supporting documentation for any and all Family members to be added.

NOTE: A Disabled American Veterans ID card entitles them to Commissary and Post Exchange privileges only. Medical is handled by VA.

Q: Is a Soldier's signature required for issuance of dependent ID cards during mobilization or wartime?

A: No. During mobilization or wartime, the mobilized or deployed sponsor's signature is not required on the DD Form 1172. The verifying official will sign and date the form. The verifying official will also provide the following statement: "Eligibility was verified by DEERS. Sponsor not available-Deployed in support of Operation Enduring/Iraq Freedom."

Q: Will my Soldier be receiving any extra pay while he's extended?

A: To qualify for the Involuntary Extension Program for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) the following must happen:

1. Soldiers must be serving in a unit supporting OIF.
2. The unit must be specified by the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) to continue to serve beyond their scheduled 12 month deployment and including staging time – served 12 consecutive months or 12 months within a 15 month period.

If all of these prerequisites are met, the deployed Soldier would qualify for:

Assignment Incentive Pay (AIP), which was last approved for \$800 a month. Certain units that are located in Kuwait but regularly operate in Iraq may also be designated.

Hardship Duty Pay-Tempo (HDP-T), which was last approved in the amount of \$200 a month. It is an amount payable over and beyond Hardship Duty Pay – Location (HDP-L) and is paid for enduring additional hardship due to an extended stay in a designated hardship duty location.

Authority to pay AIP and HDP-T must be designated by the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). The OSD authority will state eligibility criteria, amount and payable time period.

After AIP and HDP-T are added they will appear in the SAVE PAY payment on the LES. The total amount of SAVE PAY will usually be \$1,100.

- \$800 (AIP) + \$200 (HDP-T) + \$100 (HDP-L)=\$1,100

Affected units will submit a DA 4187 to the servicing finance unit in theater with a list of Soldiers who qualify for the additional money and the finance unit will send it to the 13th Finance Group (FG). The 13th FG will then verify the list and send to DFAS for entry to the Soldiers' master military pay accounts.

This pay is not a bonus - it is an incentive pay. Thus, it is subject to the maximum cap authorized by the Department of the Army for tax exemption. This taxable cap primarily affects commissioned officers whose income surpasses the authorized cap.

Q: When are we entitled to the additional pay of AIP of \$800 and bonus HDP-T of \$200?

A: Active Component Soldiers who have been deployed to Iraq (to include staging time in Kuwait) for a combined deployed time of 12 consecutive months, or 12 months within a 15 month period. Soldiers should anticipate receiving the AIP and bonus HDP-T entitlements within 30 days of the Finance command receiving the required documentation. This is a monthly entitlement and is not prorated; all other entitlements remain in effect.

Q: My power of attorney is about to expire, how can I renew it?

A: Powers of attorney must be renewed by your service member. Units are aware of this requirement and are making arrangements for legal assistance for service members while deployed. Please note that wills do not expire, and one does not need a new will unless there has been a significant change in desires or life circumstances (birth, divorce, etc.)

Q: If my power of attorney has expired, can my dependent(s) still receive an ID card?

A: No. The sponsor has to submit another power of attorney and mail it to the Family member.

Q: I have not yet filed my taxes for myself and my deployed spouse. Does the extension affect my time to file?

A: Soldiers have 180 days after redeployment to file their taxes without penalty.